



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD

NORTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The special telephone meeting of the First Things First North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council; Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board was held on Wednesday, January 27, 2010 at the First Things First Office located at 4000 North Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85012.

Chair Bill Adams called the special phone meeting to order at 12:34 p.m.

Members Present: Bill Adams, Chair; Sally Downing, Vice Chair; Elaine Ellis, Member; Connie Robinson, Member; Mindy Zapata, Member; Willette Watts, Member; James Emch, Member.

Members Not Present: Gina Montes-Ramos, Member; Jenna Goad, Member; Karyn Parker, Member

Quorum: Established.

Staff Present: Brenda Tomlin, Regional Coordinator, Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant

2. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON THE RE-RELEASE OF THE CRISIS PREVENTION GRANT:** The two applications received for Crisis Prevention did not meet the scope of work requirements according to the review committee. The recommendation of the review committee was not to fund either of the potential grantees. The Council at this time can revise the Request for Grant Application and release it as a combined RFGA with funding from this fiscal year and next fiscal year (covering a total of 14 months for service delivery), or reallocate the funds currently available for this strategy in SFY 2010 to other strategies. If the RFGA is not revised, it will be released in March 2010 with services/award to begin in July 2010 (for 12 months). There is approximately \$90,000 available for the 2010 fiscal year and \$400,000 for the 2011 fiscal year.

Vice Chair Sally Downing moved to go ahead with the 2011 funding to support the Crisis Prevention Strategy and allocate the 2010 funding for the Crisis Prevention Strategy to support another strategy area, second by Member Connie Robinson, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

3. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON THE RELEASE OF UN-EXPENDED FUNDS FOR EMERGENCY CHILD CARE TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS:** In order for parents to qualify for Emergency Child Care Tuition Scholarships they must be at or below the 200% poverty level. The North Phoenix Council previously voted to provide an additional \$840,000 to support Child Care Tuition Scholarships in the Region once the discretionary allotment for Emergency Child Care Tuition Scholarships was expended. While any center or home in the region that "applied" to be a part of the Quality First! program was eligible to receive this emergency funding, the additional regional funding was allocated only to the State-funded Quality First "enrolled" Centers/Homes. Twenty (20) centers and one (1) home are currently receiving this extra allocation, and are currently supporting 125 scholarships.

Regional Coordinator Brenda Tomlin received a notice last week that there was a substantial amount of money left over from the "discretionary" allotment for Emergency Scholarships in this fiscal year. Discussion from Council members regarding reasons why such a large amount was "left over" occurred. It was determined that this unexpended funding was sufficient to support an additional seventy five (75) scholarships over a four month period (March – June) if the Council determines they want to continue using the allocation to support this strategy. If the Council decides they want to continue supporting additional child care tuition scholarships in the region, then they must also determine how/where to distribute the additional funding. Regional Coordinator Tomlin advised that since the Council originally allocated additional funding to support Child Care Tuition Scholarships in the region, there are 20 additional centers that have been enrolled in Quality First! by virtue of the regional allocation to support this strategy.

After significant discussion, the Council determined they would like to take the \$90,000 not expended for the Crisis Prevention Strategy in 2010 and add that to this unexpended discretionary funding in order to continue funding additional Child Care Tuition Scholarships in the Region during the remainder of 2010. The Council discussed the possibility of evenly distributing the \$290,000 between the centers that were more recently enrolled in Quality First!.

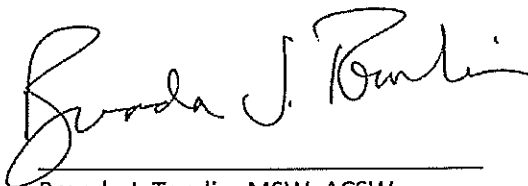
Member Elaine Ellis moved to allocate the \$290,000 from un-spent scholarships funds and unspent 2010 monies from Crisis Prevention into scholarships, second by Vice Chair Sally Downing, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

The Consensus of the Council was to expand and distribute the funds evenly between the twenty (20) regionally supported/enrolled Quality First! participants. Each new participant will be eligible to receive a minimum of five (5) scholarships. These scholarships are anticipated to be available from March through June, 2010 once contracting is completed.

4. **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:** Tuesday, February 9, 2010 Washington Elementary School District Governing Board Room, e4650 West Sweetwater, Glendale, Arizona 85304

5. **ADJOURNMENT:** Member Willette Watts moved to adjourn the special telephone meeting, second by Member Connie Robinson, all in favor, no discussion, meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Approved



Brenda J. Tomlin, MSW, ACSW
Regional Coordinator

North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council



Bill Adams
Chair